

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 1-14 as being unpatentable over Kato et al. in view of Habert et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is again traversed. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in response to the Examiner's comments on page 3 of the Office Action based upon the foregoing amendments, Applicant's previous comments incorporated herein by reference and the following points.

Accepting solely for argument's sake the characterization in the Office Action as to what Kato et al. and Habert et al. teach as set forth at said page 3, Applicants note that they suggest nothing, even if added together, about constraining an intermediate blank and an inner peripheral surface of the magnetic pole claw and applying a forming pressure from a radical direction and causing a local plastic flow to an outer peripheral end of each of the magnetic pole claw, thereby forming a tapered surface on only one side of the outer peripheral end and a permanent-magnet fastener on an inner, peripheral end simultaneously by way of the same process.

The Kato et al. document discloses only the permanent-magnet fastener, not both a tapered surface and the permanent-magnet fastener. Furthermore, the direction of the forming force added to the part is completely different from that of the present invention. As the forming force is added towards an axial

direction, the edge line of the rotor periphery and the taper surface becomes the same with an axial direction. In other words, there is no inclination, with the result that a long life and accuracy of the die cannot be expected.

The Habert et al. patent discloses a rotor with a taper portion on the magnetic pole claw. There is, however, no description whatsoever as to the tapered surface or that the permanent-magnet fastener is formed an inner peripheral end simultaneously in the same process.

By virtue of the present invention, however, the intermediate blank and the inner peripheral surface of the magnetic pole claw are constrained and the formed pressure is applied from a radical direction so as to cause a local plastic flow to an outer peripheral end. Consequently, the tapered surface and the permanent-magnet fastener are formed simultaneously by the same process in a manner not contemplated by the prior art.

Accordingly, early and favorable action is now earnestly solicited.

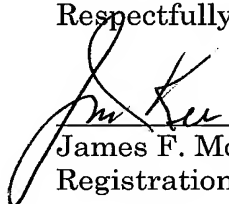
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Serial No. 10/824,408
Amendment Dated: February 19, 2008
Reply to Office Action Mailed: August 17, 2007
Attorney Docket No. 056207.53989US

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056207.53989US).

February 19, 2008

Respectfully submitted,



James F. McKeown
Registration No. 25,406

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
JFM:slw

4937759_1.DOC